

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 INT-08 OMB-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 STR-08 DRC-01 /185 W

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1476

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, EMIN, ENRG, NATO

SUBJECT: SYMPOSIUM ON SIBERIAN NATURAL RESOURCES

REF: A) STATE 51729; B) USNATO 1444

1. MISSION HAS MADE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REF (A) AS OUR PRELIMINARY COMMENTS REGARDING THE ACCURACY OF STATEMENTS MADE IN THE ECONOMIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL (DOCUMENT C-M(74)14).

2. THE U.K. DELEGATION, WHICH ALSO CALLED ATTENTION DURING THE MARCH 15 NAC MEETING TO INACCURACIES IN THE REPORT (REF (B)), HAS CIRCULATED THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS TO THE ECONOMIC DIRECTOR AND MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE:

BEGIN TEXT:

1. IN THE COUNCIL TODAY OUR REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT WE WOULD SEND YOU OUR DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE SIBERIAN PAPER CM 74/14.

2. PARA 19-IS IT CLEAR THAT HUGE DEPOSITS DO EXIST IN E.
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SIBERIA, FAR EAST, SAKHALIN AND ARCTIC OFFSHORE AREAS? HUGE DEPOSITS HAVE NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED IN ALL THESE LOCSTIONS. GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS IN THESE AREAS FAVOUR THE EXISTENCE OF LARGE RESERVES; BUT IN MANY CASES THESE HAVE YET TO BE FOUND

AND PROVED.

PARA 37- OUR ESTIMATE FOR EAST EUROPEAN DEMAND FOR OIL IN 1980 IS 147-167 MILLION METRIC TONS.

PARA 39-WE ESTIMATE THAT EAST EUROPEAN OIL PRODUCTION WILL BE ABOUT 17 MILLION TONS IN 1980.

PARA 40- PRESUMABLY THESE FIGURES FOR SOVIET DOMESTIC DEMAND REFER TO 1980?

PARA 43-WE ESTIMATE THAT E EUROPE WILL IMPORT 130-150 MILLION TONS OF OIL IN 1980.

PAGE 12 FOOTNOTE-WE ESTIMATE THAT RUSSIAN NATURAL GAS EXPORTS TO E EUROPE WILL BE ABOUT 25000 MILLION CUBIC METRES IN 1980.

PARA 45-WE ESTIMATE THAT RUSSIA'S OIL EXPORT SURPLUS IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE DECADE WILL BE ABOUT 150-160 MILLION TONS.

CONCLUSION A4-WHILST WE SEE THE LOGIC OF THIS WE WONDER IF IT IS NECESSARILY TRUE. ARE THERE PRECEDENTS FOR THE USSR BOOSTING SALES TO HARD CURRENCY AREAS WHEN PRICES RISE? GOLD COULD BE QUOTED, BUT IS A RATHER DIFFERENT CASE. WE DO NOT FORESEE ANY DRAMATIC INCREASE IN OIL EXPORTS TO THE WEST IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

A7-THE USSR IS ALREADY COMMITTED TO SUBSTANTIAL NATURAL GAS EXPORTS FROM THE MID-1970S TO THE MID 1990'S.

A11-WE DOUBT WHETHER THE PROVISIONAL 1980 PRODUCTION TARGETS OF 550-600,000 MILLION CUBIC METRES WILL BE MET. OUR OWN 1980 ESTIMATE IS MUCH LOWER AT 380,000 MILLION CUBIC METRES; FOR WE DOUBT WHETHER SOME OF THEIR NEW NATURAL GAS PROJECTS WILL BE OPERATING BY 1980. SO OUR ESTIMATES OF EXPORTS SHARE OF TOTAL PRODUCTION DIFFER FROM THOSE GIVEN.

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3. AS WAS SAID IN THE COUNCIL TODAY, PROBLEMS ARE POSED BY POSSIBLE INACCURACIES IN THIS PAPER, WHETHER IT IS PUBLISHED OR NOT. FOR THE USE OF OUR GOVERNMENTS WE COULD PRODUCE A CONSOLIDATED LIST OF OUR COMMENTS ON THE FIGURES GIVEN. IF IT WERE PUBLISHED WE COULD INCLUDE IN THE 'CAVEAT' NOT ONLY A DISCLAIMER OF NATO'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE "ROUND-TABLE", BUT ALSO A WARNING THAT THE FIGURES IN IT ARE THOSE GIVEN BY SPEAKERS AT THE ROUND-TABLE AND SO SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE ACCEPTED AS ACCURATE. WE CAN NO DOUBT DISCUSS THIS WHEN WE MEET NEXT. END TEXT

3. ACTION REQUESTED: 1) DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THE U.K. SUGGESTION OF INCLUDING A WARNING REGARDING THE ACCURACY OF

STATEMENTS MADE IN THE SYMPOSIUM IF AGREEMENT IS REACHED TO
PUBLISH THE PAPERS. 2) ANY OTHER COMMENTS ON THE SYMPOSIUM
PAPERS AND THEIR PUBLICATION.
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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